

SENATE BILL 2048

By Jackson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68,  
relative to vital records.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-3-502(b), is amended by deleting the subsection and substituting:

(b) The funeral director who first assumes custody of the dead body; medical examiner; or hospital employee may file the death certificate. The funeral director, medical examiner, or hospital employee shall obtain the personal data from the next of kin or the best qualified person or source available, and shall obtain the medical certification from the person responsible for medical certification, as set forth in subsection (c).

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-3-502(e), is amended by deleting the subsection and substituting:

(e) If the cause of death cannot be determined within forty-eight (48) hours after death, the medical certification shall be completed as provided by regulation. The attending physician or medical examiner shall give the funeral director notice of the reason for the delay; and final disposition of the body shall not be made until authorized by the attending physician or medical examiner.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.